WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Founded December 17, 1857 FEBRUARY 1994

WASHTENAW IMPRESSIONS

KAREN'S COLUMN

HANDSOME SIGNS NOW IDENTIFY MUSEUM ON MAIN; JANUARY EXHIBIT AT LIBRARY SHOWCASES WCHS

Just before the New Year (Christmas Eve to be exact) the signs for the Museum on Main Street (MoMS) were lettered and installed.

The signs were built and painted by Joe Benkert and lettered by Ann Arbor artist Milt Kemnitz. Milt and his wife have been long time members of the Washtenaw County Historical Society and have donated special paintings to us.

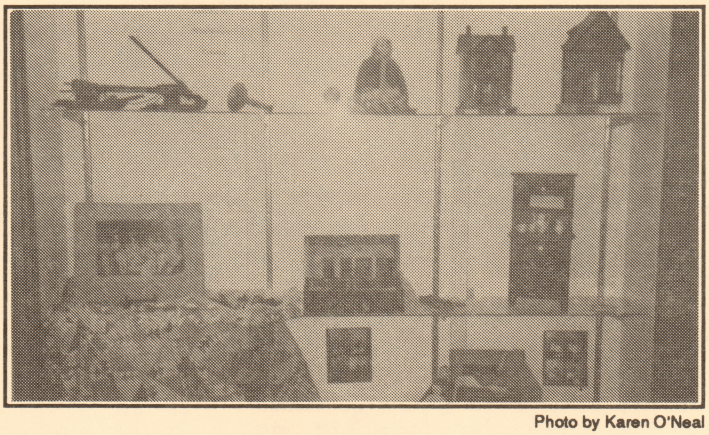


Photo by Karen O'Neal

Part of an extensive WCHS display in the Ann Arbor Public Library display cases during January. The doll houses in upper right are those given by Earlyne Figg as mentioned elsewhere.

You may recall reading in the May 1991 Impressions that he donated a painting of the old Washtenaw County Courthouse, completed in 1878 and torn down in the 1950s.

The Courthouse painting has been loaned to First of America Bank on Main Street where it may be seen in the first floor conference room.

Milt generously donated to the Society most of the cost of lettering the signs, a gift that we truly appreciate. We are proud to display two *"original Kemnitz's"* outside the Museum. They are works of art.

During January the Society had an exhibit at the main Ann Arbor Public Library entitled "*The Museum on Main Street—A Work in Progress.*"

This exhibit featured information about WCHS, the house, the architecture, the families who lived there. It was in the downstairs exhibit cases outside the Multi-purpose Room. Several of our recently acquired artifacts were also displayed.

Special thanks to Pat Austin, Nancy McKinney, Peter Pollack, Bets Hansen, Pauline Walters, Susan Wineberg and Alice Ziegler for their help in putting this display together.

Our display is to be followed in February by a Cobblestone Farm Association display in honor of their 20th anniversary of restoring the house.

Karen O'Neal
665-2242

REMEMBER WWII, USO'S, BIG BANDS, JITTERBUGGING? 'STAGE DOOR CANTEEN FIFTY YEARS LATER' FOR YOU

The Saline Big Band and singer Judy Dow Alexander will highlight the WCHS spring fund raiser, "Stage Door Canteen Fifty Years Later" on Friday, March 25, at the Cobblestone Farm Barn. Please mark your calendar.

Start with music, dancing, food and the atmosphere of a 1944 USO canteen where civilian volunteers entertained servicemen. Add a raffle, door prizes and a jitterbug contest. Expect a surprise or two. That's the way to say goodbye to the winter blues.

Your invitation and ticket order form will soon be in the mail. Tickets are limited so don't delay.

If you have period dresses, suits or uniforms in storage, wearing them will add to the fun.

FOREST HILL CEMETERY ENTRANCE INSPIRES WCHS FEBRUARY PROGRAM

Sally Bund, an historic preservation student at Eastern Michigan University, will discuss the works of nineteenth century Detroit architect, Gordon Lloyd at the WCHS meeting at 2 p.m. Sunday, February 13 at Bentley Library.

(Her talk will be a week earlier than the regular third Sunday because of a conflict.)

Mrs. Bund will give particular attention to the Gothic Revival entrance to Forest Hill Cemetery. (Lloyd also designed St. Andrew's Episcopal Church and the Palmer House, 205 North Division at Ann Street.)

Readers may recall a fascinating talk Sally gave last March about the charming Italian Count who directed the University of Michigan Arboretum in its early days.

Bentley Library is at 1150 Beal on the U-M North Campus. Those approaching from the east may take Glazier Way to Beal and turn right on Beal. (Glazier Way is closed west of there because of construction.) If coming from the west on Fuller, take Bonisteel to Beal.

FASHION LUNCHEON NETS $758 FOR WCHS MUSEUM

WCHS's "Take A Lunch Break Fashion Show" last December 3 at the Moveable Feast Restaurant netted $758.25 to help restore the interior of the Museum on Main Street, Pauline Walters reported.

Fashions from Alexandra's Shop in Kerrytown and Renaissance Men's Wear on Maynard Street were informally modeled during lunch. A capacity crowd of 81 persons attended.

Door prizes were donated by The Moveable Feast, Alexandra's, Renaissance, Matthew Hoffman jewelry, Hollander's paper goods at Kerrytown and Karen O'Neal who gave a handwoven basket.

Barbara Mueller won silver earrings from Hoffman and Mona Walz, the basket. Mrs. O'Neal won a gift certificate for two lunches at The Moveable Feast. Other gift certificates were from Alexandra's (five), Renaissance (two) and Hollander's (one). The Moveable Feast also gave ten percent discount coupons for lunch in January or February to each guest.

ARCHITECTURE IN MICHIGAN WORTH PRESERVING? YOU BET!

What better time to launch a career in historic preservation than 1976 during *"the halcyon days"* of the United States Bicentennial?

That's what Janet Kreger, WCHS November speaker, did. With a master's degree in historic preservation from Columbia University in New York City, she returned to Michigan and landed a job as historic preservation coordinator for the Bureau of Michigan History.

"Many good things were going on. There was already a history of activities to protect Michigan's architectural resources since the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966.

Photos by Janet Kreger

Voight House (above) is in the Heritage Hill Historic District in Grand Rapids, Kent County. It was bought by the city and is open to visitors.

"There were Bicentennial projects—buildings restored, oral histories recorded, museums, committees, commissions, publications and sections in schools.

"Professional training was available. Columbia's program, now 35 years old, was one of the first. Michigan now has a degree granting program in historic preservation at Eastern Michigan University, the only one in the state.

"Michigan Public Act 169 of 1970 allowed communities to establish protective ordinances. Now Ann Arbor is one of 65 or more communities that have them."

The US Tax Act of 1976, for the first time, offered investment tax credit of up to 25 percent to people rehabilitating historic buildings. The maximum credit under the Tax Reform Act of 1986 is 20 percent, she said.

The State and National Registers of Historic Places were expanded in terms of what could be listed.

The Michigan Historic Preservation Network and the Society of Architectural Historians were established. Ms. Kreger helped found the former. She is newly elected president of the latter, the Saarinen (Michigan) Chapter of SAH.

"On the downside, some Community Development Block Grant money was being used to fund total urban clearance. And often, environmental review and compliance under NHPA of 1966 was not taken seriously.

"The state historic preservation office staff was small—five then, only seven or eight now. And compared to places on the East and West Coasts, Michigan does not have a very well developed preservation ethic."

During her 12 years with the State Bureau of History, she was responsible for inventorying more than 34,000 properties in Michigan and writing or editing nominations for 3,250 properties to be listed on the National Register among other duties.

Ms. Kreger became major gifts officer of the University of Michigan College of Literature, Science and the Arts in 1988 but maintains her interest in historic preservation through teaching at EMU, speaking , writing and active memberships in preservation organizations.

She showed slides illustrating preservation of Michigan's "rich architectural heritage" all around the state.

Among those she showed were:

The Voight House and the eclectically styled "castle," both residences in the Heritage Hill Historic District in Grand Rapids.

St. John's Episcopal Church, 1861, and Christ Church, both in Detroit.

Public buildings—the State Capitol in Lansing, Fort Mackinac on Mackinac Island and Fort Wilkins in Copper Harbor, Keweenaw County.

"We have also begun to recognize a wide variety of sites that reflect other elements of the state's cultural heritage," she said.

Examples of transportation heritage were the White's Covered Bridge, 1867, in Kent County, the Grand Trunk Western Railroad Station, 1902, in Lansing and the Mackinac and Detroit Railroad Swing Bridge, 1892, in Bay City. The latter no longer exists.

The Quincy Mining Townsite in Houghton County and the Escanaba Paper Company, established 1907-23, are part of our industrial heritage. "The latter is one of the best forms of preservation, it's simply been maintained. It's been modernized but the company is committed to keep it standing."

The Sturgeon Point Lighthouse, 1869, in Alcona County and the former Chief Wawatam railroad car ferry at the Straits of Mackinac (recently scrapped) were examples of water transportation heritage.

"Our agricultural legacy is also beginning to get the attention it deserves with the recognition of sites such as the huge Egu-Samu Barn, 1924, outside Gagetown in Tuscola County, the Linden Mill and the Fenton Grain Elevator, both in Genessee County."

The Conservatory and Aquarium on Belle Isle in the Detroit River is a public entertainment or recreation site "worthy of recognition."

The Hillsdale College Administration Building, built 1853-55 is part of our education heritage. The building is a "gorgeous French Second Empire roof tacked onto an Italianate building."

"The excavated Tionontate Huron Village in St. Ignace reflects the earliest settlement by Native Americans.

Public safety sites include an architecturally significant Fire Station in Detroit and a Public Jail in Leland, Leelanau County, now a tourist information center.

"Over the past 20 years we have been working on the recognition of historic districts, collections of intact residential, commercial and industrial areas. We find that districts afford greater protection because there is 'safety in numbers.'

"We also feel that a district can often go further than an individual site in maintaining an entire historic environment that allows the public to see more easily and vividly what Michigan's residential, commercial and industrial areas were like when the state was young."

"South Street Historic District in Kalamazoo is an example of a large town residential district. The residences reflect Michigan's past but stand as viable investments for homeowners today."

Shown were Kirby House, 708 West South Street, Queen Anne inspired Gilmore House with half timbering at 516, Todd house, 620, brick De Yoe House, 604, and the Wood House, 530, an Italian villa style brick.

The Midland Street Historic District in Bay City is a commercial district in a

larger Michigan town. It is on the National Register. Fanciful window treatments, door enframements and a "rich array" of Italianate commercial architecture was shown in the revitalized shopping area.

"A small town residential historic district is found in the Dibbleville/Fentonville District in Fenton in Genessee County."

Shown were the Neo-Classical Revival Harry Phillips House, a Sears kit home model called the Magnolia; the Queen Anne style George Wilmot House; the early Greek Revival Job Cranston Home, the magnificent Queen Anne style Edgar Kennedy House; the "wonderfully eclectic" Josiah Buckbee House and a tiny Greek Revival.

The Harry Phillips House is in the Dibbleville/Fentonville Historic District in the small Genessee County community of Fenton. This elaborate Neo-classical Revival style home is a Sears kit home.

"The Buckbee House exuberantly combines Queen Anne, Gothic Revival and Italian Villa design elements."

The above mentioned Genessee county district was "one of many districts and individual properties included in the large Multiple Resource Register Nomination produced in the early 1980s for all of Genessee County."

"Hearthside Historic District along the river front in Grand Rapids is a large town commercial and manufacturing historic district.

"Furniture manufacturing and warehousing buildings are undergoing adaptive reuse as office and residential space.

"Rich architectural detailing can be seen no matter where one looks along the streetscape. Such aesthetic benefits, when teamed with solid buildings that can be recycled at competitive costs, are leading to a center city renaissance.

"Michigan's Upper Peninsula is not to be over looked. It has such rich architectural resources as in the National Register listed Sheldon Avenue Historic Commercial District in Houghton.

"Structural and ornamental detailing can be seen both on the modest store fronts of the downtown streetscape as well as on such grand, architectural gems as the Douglass House Hotel.

"The Western shoreline of the state also offers a rich collection of commercial, industrial and residential districts. Along Manistee's river front, the Manistee Downtown Commercial District offers a classically designed bank and an Art Moderne theater.

Its National Register listed streetscape is dominated by Italianate store fronts from the late nineteenth century.

"Historic resources—whether residential, commercial or industrial in character, whether located individually or together in districts—are alive and well in Michigan.

"They are special resources for a town because they add depth, color, texture and style, and an historical perspective. The preservation of such resources helps assure the future health and vitality of Michigan."

"Fellow graduate students at Columbia were kind of appalled that I was going back to Michigan, thinking I would not find a job or resources to work on. One student had the audacity to say she wondered if there was any architecture west of the Ohio River

"Of course there is architecture in the state. We have a full complement of architectural styles

"Our architectural history pretty much starts with Greek Revival. There are some Federal style buildings in Detroit and Monroe but they were limited in impact on design of other buildings around them.

She showed examples of sixteen styles in Michigan:

Greek Revival—the 1840 Brock House in Marshall.

Gothic Revival—the 1850s Livingston-Howell house in Howell.

Italian Villa—the 1850s Stafford House in Port Hope at the tip of the Thumb.

Italianate—an 1860s building in Marshall.

French Second Empire—the 1850s Hillsdale College Administration Building, also the Ladies Library in Ypsilanti.

Queen Anne—house in Alpena.

Romanesque—Muskegon Public Library.

Georgian Revival— house in Indian Village in Detroit.

Neo-Classical Revival—the Harry Phillips House in Fenton.

Tudor Revival—East Lansing house.

Prairie—Grand Rapids house.

American Foursquare—Lansing house.

Bungalow—East Lansing house.

Craftsman—East Lansing house.

Art Deco—Michigan National Bank, Marshall.

Art Moderne—Grand Rapids house.

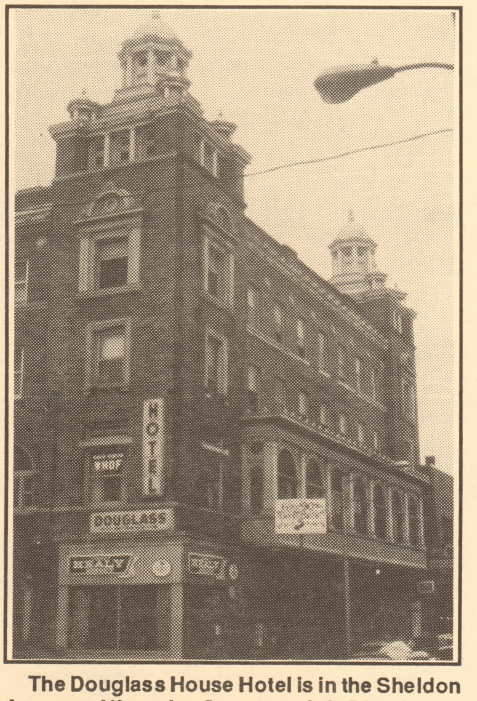
"I'm going through in somewhat chronological order but they overlap a great deal. There is eclecticism galore in Michigan and lots of Queen Anne houses and Italianate commercial buildings all over Michigan.

"The Italianate style commercial buildings coincided with spurts in commercial, industrial and lumbering activity and with complete loss of some communities due to fires that swept across the state.

"We don't have as many Romanesque because they were quite grand and difficult to build. Normally, we see them in public buildings."

She showed examples of buildings being restored—a commercial building in downtown Owosso, a residence in Ypsilanti and a telephone company building in Pontiac restored and used as a restaurant.

"I'm not the kind of preservationist who



The Douglass House Hotel is in the Sheldon Avenue Historic Commercial District in Houghton in the Upper Peninsula. The district is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Photo by Janet Kreger

The Stachlewitz House on Forest Avenue in Ypsilanti (above), near the Eastern Michigan University campus, is shown before (left) and after restoration. The former residence is now a sorority house.

HOW TO JOIN WCHS

To join WCHS send name, address and phone number with check or money order payable to Washtenaw County Historical Society to: WCHS Membership, c/o Patty Creal, Treasurer, 2655 Esch Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

Annual dues are: student, senior (age 60+), $10; senior couple (one 60+), $19; individual, $15; family/couple, $25; patron, $100; association, business, $50. Information: 662-9092.

CIVIL WAR REMEMBERED

Panel leader David Curtis will appear in full dress uniform for the "Civil War Remembered" program Sunday, February 27, of the Genealogy Society of Washtenaw County at Washtenaw Community College following the 1:30 p.m. business meeting.

Connie Olson will give tips on searching for Union ancestors, Carolyn Griffin about Confederates and Nancy Krohn will talk about the 21st Infantry.

is dedicated to saving every building. Some will be lost. Others can be restored and beautifully carried forward for years into the future.

"For me, what is very exciting is when you end up with a streetscape like this in Detroit—where you see a very vital kind of juxtaposition between the historic Wayne County Building on the left and the Ren-Cen on the right.

"I don't think a streetscape gets any better than when the best of the past is blended well with what you are designing now."

A member of the audience asked what she could say to people who own a historic building on the National Register who cannot afford to keep it up and don't know what to do with it

She said the National Register does not dictate that you maintain your home or not tear it down. Michigan has no state law that governs that unless you are under a local protective ordinance like you have in Ann Arbor, she said.

In that case, the local historic district commission may very well have a say in whether it comes down. Investment tax credits are available only for income producing property, she said.

The question involved the 1848 Silas Douglass House at 502 East Huron next to the First Baptist Church which owns it. There is a similar situation in Ypsilanti where the Towner House, oldest house in town, is owned by the First Presbyterian Church.

TWELVE ANN ARBOR GIRLS START SORORITY IN 1898

Among recent gifts to WCHS is an 1898 president's book for Upsilon Phi Sorority which seems to be for high school or younger girls. The first president was elected in 1898, the last in 1910-11.

At least two names listed may be familiar today—Elizabeth Dean, the woman who gave the City of Ann Arbor nearly $2 million for care of its trees, and Linda Eberbach, a former longtime Ann Arbor High School teacher and member of an early family who was a life member of WCHS.

Miss Dean, born Christmas eve 1884 in Ann Arbor died in early April 1964 at age 80. Miss Eberbach, born September 22, 1894, in Ann Arbor, died November 7, 1981 at age 87.

By 1914, Miss Eberbach and Miss Dean are listed in Ann Arbor City Directories, Miss Eberbach as a student. City directories do not list persons younger than college age.

A newspaper clipping in the book tells of "a club of 12 little girls who have organized what they call the Upsi Phi Society, who will supply a mother and five children with a Christmas dinner consisting of roast turkey and such delicacies which they would not have secured otherwise."

The book includes a constitution, initiation rites, an oath, agendas of meetings. They began with a song—some titles were "Happy Girls," We Are the Girls," and "Pink, Green and White."

Sixty-some names of members are listed in the back of the book. Members at the first meeting were Beth and Margaret Cooley, Madge Cady, Rose Carhart, Georgia Clark, Ruth Russell, Bessie Eggert, Lois Bogle or Boyle, Kathleen Cutting, Mary Louise Herdman, Linda Kinyon and Gretchen Lydecker, the first president. The last president was Annabelle Frink.

Annie Langley, listed twice, may have been the daughter of Professor Langley who became an Ann Arbor High School teacher.

If so, she was the instigator of a caper related by one of her students, Fred Bishop, in the May 1975 *Impressions*. She coaxed Fred, a senior, and a couple of friends to steal roses from an Arboretum rose garden then along Geddes Avenue to decorate the school for graduation exercises.

They did in dark of night and Fred claimed there were so many roses growing there and they picked so carefully, here and there, that no one ever suspected.

YPSILANTI GROUP HOPES TO RESTORE STATUE

Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation is planning a 20th anniversary fund raiser May 14 with funds going to restore the sculpture of General Demetrius Ypsilanti for whom the community is named.

RAILROAD DIPS INTO BAG OF DIRTY TRICKS TO ABANDON LINE PUBLIC WANTS

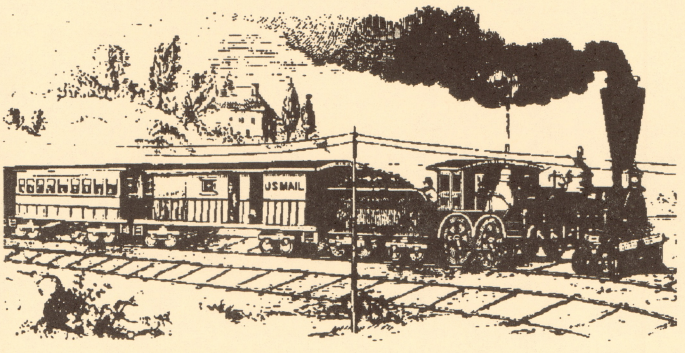
In the early spring of 1891 South Lyon had a riot. What inflamed that normally quiet town?

The Ann Arbor Railroad and its bag of tricks. Word got out that the railroad was going to abandon the route from Leland to South Lyon. (Leland was near the corner of Northfield Church and Earhart Roads.)

Only ten years before the line had been built to South Lyon and it was then called the terminus of the line. There was even talk railroad shops would be established there, one account says.

Farmers and other citizens had contributed right of way plus $16,000 to secure the building of the line. They were outraged.

The story is told in newspaper clippings handed out by Dan McClary, October speaker.



According to C. E. Havershaw, a 79-year-old retired carpenter, quoted in *The Ann Arbor News*, February 15, 1949, there was a riot on Saturday night, March 28, 1891, "the like of which was never seen before or since."

As Havershaw told it, practically every able-bodied citizen of the town gathered that night at "the diamond" where Grand Trunk, Pere Marquette and Ann Arbor tracks interlaced.

"A few of the rioters who were sober enough, chalked identifying marks on the rails belonging to the Ann Arbor line to guide them."

"While husky souls were tearing up tracks others were building a huge bonfire. Heated white hot, the rails were readily wrapped around adjacent telephone poles." There were fist fights and brawling until saloons closed, Havershaw said.

The Ann Arbor Argus, March 31, 1891, said when word got out on Saturday that the route was to be torn up on Sunday, more sober heads "had notified Whitman, railroad commissioner, who notified the railroad company that the work must not be done."

But no one could get an injunction on Sunday to stop them. A large gang of men went to work Sunday morning "tearing up rails, loading the iron on flat cars."

"All but about three miles of the eight mile section from Leland to South Lyon were torn up. "

"Officially, the Ann Arbor Railroad would never admit that it had torn up its own tracks."

Attorney Charles S. Ashley, whom McClary called the spin doctor, said "the company had no knowledge of the affair but that each of the 100 men who traveled on the train of flatcars to South Lyon that early Sunday morning had paid his full fare from Leland.

"He hinted slyly it was likely that the stationmaster at Leland had cooked up the whole affair because he was feuding with the stationmaster in South Lyon."

The Argus said the men came largely from Owosso and a dispatch to a Detroit evening paper said they were offered $3 for a few hours work, their destination being unknown.

Actually people had been complaining to railroad commissioners several times before about the running of the South Lyon branch.

The previous spring, the railroad had filed a petition in Washtenaw County Circuit Court asking to abandon the road, take up the ties and remove the station houses.

The people appeared and asked the aid of railroad commissioners, petitioned the Ashleys and "held an emphatic meeting in South Lyon," the *Argus* said.

Nothing more was done in the abandonment proceedings. The case was never brought up for hearing.

Instead, a South Lyon and Northern Railroad was incorporated and a deed recorded "last August from the Ann Arbor road to this road of the South Lyon branch."

The article asks, "Did this company pay $140,000 for the privilege of taking up the old iron on the road? Or was it, as the residents along the line intimate, a company formed solely for the purpose of allowing the T, AA & N to abandon the branch?

An *Ann Arbor Courier* reporter interviewed Charles Ashley shortly after the rails were torn up. (McClary thinks its an hilarious piece of spin-doctoring.)

Ashley denied knowledge of tearing up the rails "beyond what they might infer from the fact that an unusual number of cars were ordered from Leland last week.

"Not a single employee of the Ann Arbor road was present at the work, and those who came over its line paid their fare."

"I hear some people are kicking over an alleged bonus given for the construction of this piece of road. We know nothing about it.

"Mr. Whitman is reported in this morning's *Free Press* to be meditating some proceeding against the Ann Arbor road on a sort of conspiracy theory. The sale of that line was duly made by authority of the laws of the State of Michigan to a duly incorporated railroad company. Whether it extended the road to the North Pole or Chicago or tore it up it was their own lookout."

The law against abandonment of railroads is not thought to apply in this case because the road was built before the law was passed.

"Some of the rails taken up are being shipped to Cleveland and other points and some are given the T & AA in satisfaction of our claims against the S L & N.

It's somehow appropriate that the Ashley interview appeared on April First.

MUSEUM SHOP HOLIDAY SALES TOTAL $566

WCHS's portable Museum Shop cleared a tidy $566.56 in Christmas sales, Bets Hansen, chairman, reports.

The shop operated November 21, 26 and 27 at Kerrytown and December 17 and 18 at Little Professor Bookstore at Westgate. Our thanks to Leslie Gresham, manager at Kerrytown, and Kay Walsh, manager at Little Professor, for allowing us space.

Besides sales, our display and volunteers helped acquaint the community with the Society and its museum project.

Special thanks to the Museum Shop Advisory Committee: Elizabeth Dusseau, Thelma Graves and Esther Warzynski and other volunteers.

They are Pat Austin, Patty Creal, Marjorie Cripps, Ella Grenier, Marguerite Harms, Doug Kelley, Shaw Livermore, Karen O'Neal, Louisa Pieper, June Rusten, Arlene Schmid, Jean Smith, Dorothy Wilkins and Alice Ziegler. Thanks also to Karen O'Neal and Pauline Walters for loaning and transporting the props for the display.

HISTORIC HAPPENINGS INVOLVE OLD TIME ROMANCE, PHONES, BARNS, PLAYERS, BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Chelsea Historical Society: Founder's Day dinner, 6 p.m. Monday, February 14, at Depot.

Dexter Historical Society: Annual craft show 9-4 p.m. Saturday, March 26, at Dexter High School.

Manchester Society: 7:30 p.m. third Tuesday at Blacksmith Shop, 324 East Main. Audience participation program, *"Romance Then and Now."*

Milan Society: 7:30 p.m. third Wednesday at Hack House, 775 County Street. Derwood and Laurie Novak, who have collected some 300 early phones, will talk about and display some February 16.

Salem Society: 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, February 23 at Salem Township Hall. A report on the history of Salem's Lewis family for Black History month.

The Salem Township Board has appointed an Historic District Study Committee to study what should be included in historic districts in Salem.

Saline Society: 7:30 p.m. third Wednesday at Senior Center, 7605 North Maple Road. Ted Micka of Napoleon, a barn restoration contractor who has done work in the county, will speak February 16.

Ypsilanti Society: Valentine Tea planned 2-4 p.m. Sunday, February 13, at the museum, 220 North Huron. Member Teddy Liskow will talk about *"The Ypsilanti Players."* Her talk was postponed from January because of the weather.

TV-VCR DRIVE NEARING GOAL OF 33,283 POINTS

WCHS is closing in on its goal of collecting 33,283 points from Bill Knapp's Restaurants to earn a TV-VCR combination for use at the museum.

Readers have turned in 32,114 points or 96 percent. We need 1,169 more points.

Anyone who eats at Knapp's may request a yellow points slip from the cashier each time, with one point given for each dollar spent. Please keep collecting and give or send to Alice Ziegler, 537 Riverview Dr., Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

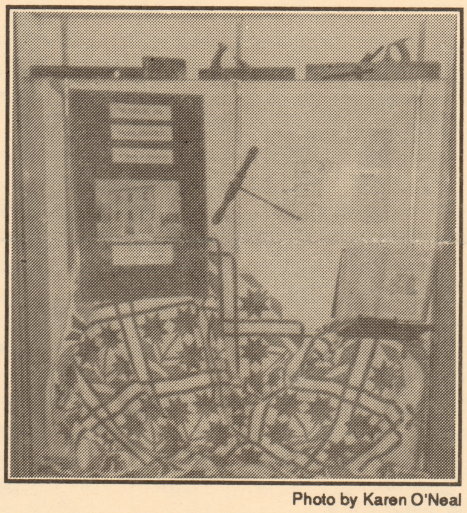


Photo by Karen O'Neal

Another part of the WCHS display at the Ann Arbor Public Library during January

PLAY FURNITURE, BED WARMER GIVEN WCHS

Recent gifts to WCHS include a mid-nineteenth century soapstone bed warmer and doll houses and play furniture, Nancy McKinney, collection chairman, said.

Sherry Duncan of Ann Arbor gave the bed warmer which came down through three generations in Ann Arbor to her through her father, William Foster.

Earlyne H. Figg of Ann Arbor has given two colorful doll houses, a play kitchen cupboard and a play dresser which were made by her father, William C. Krapf in the family mill her great-grandfather started in what is now Treasure Mart on Detroit Street.

The wooden doll houses, covered with printed paper, are 19 1/2 and 13 1/2 inches high. The doors open and there are real lace curtains on the windows. The kitchen cupboard and dresser with mirror are each 30 1/2 inches high.

She also gave some old local photos and newspaper clippings. One photo is of the Krapf family home which was next to the mill. Some of her ancestors have been in Ann Arbor since 1834.

HURON RIVER MILLS MARCH 20 TOPIC

Professor Marshall McLennan, head of the degree program in historic preservation at Eastern Michigan University, will speak on *"Mills Along the Huron"* at the WCHS meeting at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 20. It will be at the Ladies Literary Club house in Ypsilanti.

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WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

'GORDON LLOYD'S GOTHIC REVIVAL ARCHITECTURE'

2:00 P.M. • Sunday
February 13, 1994

Bentley Library
1150 Beal
U-M North Campus
Ann Arbor, Michigan

WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106-3336

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